GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5481
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2003
IMPORT OF COAL BY MSEB
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have permitted the Maharashtra State Electricity Board to import 3,75,000 tonne coal for their thermal power station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the quality of coal which is being imported by the MSEB is available in the domestic market: and

(d) if so, the reasons for giving the permission for the import of coal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA)

(a)&(b): Coal import is placed under Open General Licence (OGL)and therefore consumers are free to import coal and no prior permission is required to be obtained from Government to import coal.

(c): Due to geographical nature of coal deposits, the Indian coal is traditionally having high ash content whereas the imported coal has very less ash content. As such the quality of coal which is being imported is not available in the domestic market.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply given in parts (a) &(b) above.